

File: Sarah_Bracher_1858_10_12.doc

2011 April 26: typed by IB, and checked against MS

Note: parts of the letter have been damaged by water, and a few words are indecipherable, or difficult to read

Cover: addressed to Mr Wm Shakespeare Hall / to the care of Messrs Birwer & Wilson / Dunolly / Immediate with 3 Papers

Sarah Bracher to W S Hall, 12 October 1858

Oct 12th

Rowan St

My very dear Brother

How very long it is since I heard from you *or of* you till a few days ago Henry sent a note I hope you have been doing some good for yourself during this very long absence. We are still in the old spot & [*doing*] very middling but I am thankful to say all pretty well just now with the exceptions of coughs which seem to be on the decline. [*The*] mails from England have arrived & it appears that Papa has written 3 times to me & all the letters have been lost as I have not received them. He wrote to Geo & that came safe by way of Adelaide. Theodosia's young son Wm Godfrey is 12 mo^s old today, I am very anxious to know how Letitia is getting on, I quite expected to hear from some of them this time. You will be sorry to hear that Jones the Carter is not expected to live, he has been unable to work for 4 mo^s or more & is in a dreadful state with cancer in his tongue the doctors seem to be puzzled in his case, as nothing seems to do him any good & he told Geo last Sunday he did not expect to live long if they did not soon know better how to treat his case. Geo [*knew*] he was ill, but did not expect to find him so much altered, unable to speak & obliged to write his answers to persons conversing with him in a book he keeps by his side, he tries to speak, but he cannot make himself understood, his tongue is entirely destroyed & they say almost the only chance of his life is in having it *cut completely* out. I could scarcely credit what we heard till Geo went & saw him. How little we know what suffering or affliction we may have to pass thro' in this world. Poor Jones told Geo he was afraid he had been *too wicked* to be saved, that is a sad error many fall into at the [*eleventh*] hour. Jesus is always *willing & able if they will but believe*. Do my dear S write a few lines to me soon, I have been quite in trouble about your long silence F & A send their love & want to see you Geo desires to be very kindly remembered also the [*Tallons*] & others. I hope you do not think much

of this Port Curtis rush as the climate is so bad & a great amount of want & misery & [?poverty] already. You will have heard that the railway works are commenced nr the Big Hill, a [?good] many people have left for the new diggings. I got a Letter from Mrs Townsend who with all her family is [---] England & not doing any thing yet [?Arthur] she says is disappointed he does not find people as he left them.

God Bless you my dear Brother

Yr ever af Sarah

Poor Jones is almost a skeleton & has a good Appetite but cannot swallow any thing but a little Beef Tea